

recipient user by at least one cell-site using spread spectrum communication signals, wherein each cell-site transmits a spread spectrum pilot signal of a same spreading code and predetermined different code phase, and wherein each cell-site transmitted spread spectrum communication signals and pilot signal are susceptible to multipath propagation, a method for acquiring and processing intended recipient user spread spectrum communication signals comprising the steps of:

- receiving input signals including (a) multiple path propagations of at least one pilot signal wherein each pilot signal is transmitted by a respective one of a plurality of cell-site and wherein each multiple path propagation pilot signal travels a different path dependent offset in code phase and (b) multiple path propagations of spread spectrum communication signals transmitted by at least one of said plurality of cell-sites wherein each multiple path propagation of said spread spectrum communication signals corresponds to a respective multiple path propagation pilot signal;
- scanning said input signals at different code phases so as to detect a presence of at least one of said multiple path propagation pilot signals;
- measuring signal strength of each detected multiple path propagation pilot signal;
- determining code phase of each detected multiple path propagation pilot signal;

providing a searcher signal representative of multiple path propagation pilot signals of greatest signal strength and corresponding code phase;

spread spectrum processing, in response to said searcher signal, ones of said multiple path propagations of said spread spectrum communication signals corresponding to said multiple path propagation pilot signals of greatest signal strength so as to extract corresponding intended recipient user information signals therefrom; and

providing corresponding output signals representative of said extracted intended recipient user information signals.

17. The method of claim 16 further comprising the steps of:

- combining said output signals; and
- providing a corresponding combined output signal.

18. The method of claim 16 further comprising the steps of:

- receiving RF signals in a predetermined frequency band;
- amplifying said RF signals;
- frequency downconverting said amplified RF signals to an intermediate frequency range so as to produce corresponding IF signals;
- filtering said IF signals;
- digitizing said IF signals; and
- providing said IF signals to said searcher means and said receiver means as said input signals.

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